

A P R I L

at the

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

APRIL MEETING

Date: Wednesday, April 17, 8:15 p.m.

Place: Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: Laurel Reynolds

Subject: "WESTERN DISCOVERY"

Laurel Reynolds is well-known to Academy audiences through her previous delightful appearances. She has been acclaimed by distinguished audiences from coast to coast, not only for her artistic and professional films, but for her creative story-telling gift, which is individual and thoroughly enjoyable.

"Western Discovery" is a particularly appropriate title for this film which explores the beauty and interesting wildlife and wilderness areas of the Pacific Coast. Mrs. Reynolds follows the trail of Cortez, Sir Francis Drake and Lewis and Clark, focusing her camera from Mexico to Puget Sound on giant elephant seals, killer whales, porpoises and rarely seen nocturnal murrelets and auklets. This fine film is breathtaking in beauty and joyful in theme.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

April 2 through May 5: "THE SEVEN MOTIONS OF THE EARTH". Mother Earth moves in several directions at the same time, spinning on her axis, circling the sun and the moon, gyrating like a top. These movements are dramatically illustrated in this unusual sky show.

Performances:

Monday..... Closed
Tuesday..... 3:30 p.m. only
Wed, Thurs, Fri..... 3:30 & 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday..... 2:00, 3:30 & 8:30 p.m.
Adults, 75¢, Juniors, 40¢.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"10TH ANNUAL BAY AREA SCIENCE FAIR" will be at the Academy March 30 through April 3.

Exhibit of the Month: "BILLIKENS AND OTHER IVORY CARVINGS" from the Arnold Liebes Collection. Main Foyer, Science Museum.

"FUCHSIAS", beautifully rendered paintings by Velma Harris of the Academy staff (See MEET THE STAFF). Lovell White Hall of Man and Nature. Through May 31st.

"SCIENCE IN ACTION"

- Monday nights, 7:00 p.m., KRON-TV, Channel 4
- April 1: "10th ANNUAL BAY AREA SCIENCE FAIR" with top winners of this annual spring event.
- April 8: "THE COMING OF AGE IN SCIENCE" with Nobel Laureate Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, Chairman, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.
- April 15: "MIRACLE OF MAGNETIC TAPE" with special Guest Scientists from Ampex Corporation.
- April 22: "NEW FIELDS IN FIBRE OPTICS" with Dr. Narinder Kapany, Optics Technology, Belmont, California.
- April 29: "FLUID BALANCE AND WEIGHT CONTROL", with Dr. Harold A. Harper, Dean, Graduate School, University of California Medical Center.

NEWS and NOTES

On April 8, 1963, with the presentation of a program appropriately titled "The Coming of Age in Science" which will feature Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, Nobel Laureate and Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, "Science in Action", the Academy's television series, will present its 500th program. Everyone agrees this is quite a remarkable feat: half-a-thousand 22-1/2 minute segments, a "C" of telecasts devoted to the natural sciences, the physical sciences, space and engineering, the applied sciences and medicine. All in all --- 500 meaningful Mondays.

The series was first aired in September 1950, before Sputnik, long before science held the public interest that it holds today. It was a bold step on the part of both the Academy and the sponsor of the program, the American Trust Company (now Wells Fargo Bank). Since its inception, the program has enjoyed a success unique in television annals.

The record of "Science in Action" speaks louder than words. It has joined and remained one of a select group of distinguished television programs. A retrospective display of scripts, pictures, unusual props and awards connected with the program are to be placed on display in mid-April in the Hall of Science.

Dr. Donald R. Griffin of the Harvard Biological Laboratories visited the Academy in mid-March to confer with Dr. Robert T. Orr, Curator of the Department of Birds and Mammals. Dr. Griffin's particular area

THIS IS AN SOS!

The Academy is in sore need of acquiring additional copies of the following listed CAS scientific publications. Any members or other interested persons who are willing to relinquish such copies of Proceedings or Occasional Papers as indicated, are invited to mail them to Mrs. V. Hawley at the Academy in Golden Gate Park. Your generosity will be appreciated.

Proceedings:

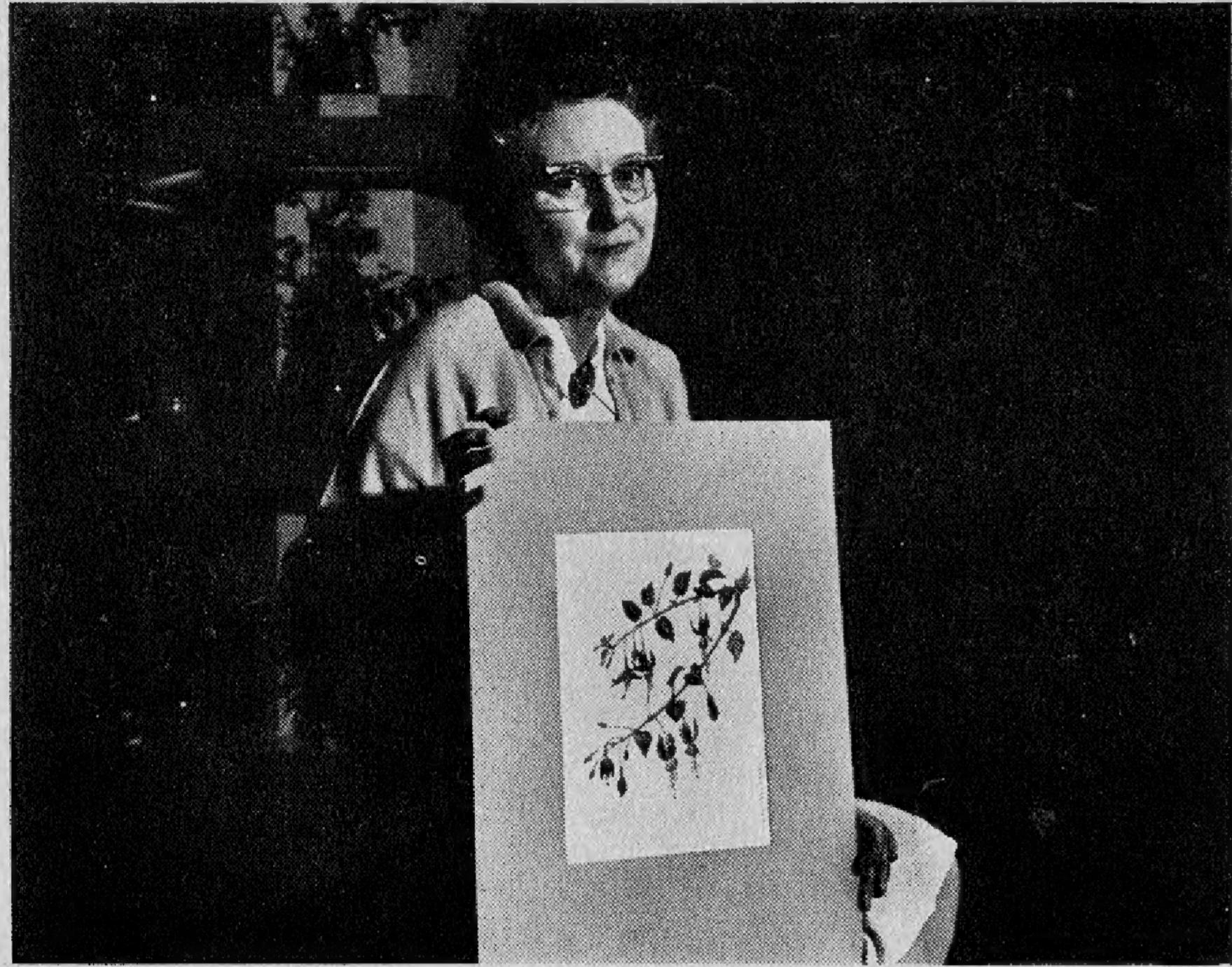
- Vol. III, No. 12: "A Distributional List of the Mammals of California".
- Vol. VI, No. 1/3: "Eocene of Lower Cowlitz River Valley, Washington", "The Post-Eocene Formations of Western Washington", and "The Oligocene of Kitsap County, Washington".
- Vol. XIII, No. 7: "Freshwater Mollusks of Eagle Lake, California".
- Vol. XIII, No. 8: "Notes on some Echinoids from the San Rafael and Tuxpam Beds of the Tampico Region, Mexico".
- Vol. XIII, No. 9: "Description of a New Genus and Species of Freshwater Gastropod Mollusk (Scalez petrolia) from the Etchegoin Pliocene of California".
- Vol. XIII, No. 12: "Notes on the Herpetology of New Mexico, with a List of Species Known from that State".
- Vol. XVI, No. 9: "The Making of a Scientific Collection of Reptiles and Amphibians".
- Vol. XXV, No. 5: "The Gander Oak, a New Hybrid Oak from San Diego County, California".
- Vol. XXVI, No. 9: "West American Mollusks of the Genus Conus".
- Occasional Papers:
- No. 21: "The Galapagos Finches (Geospizinae)".

of interest is acoustic orientation. He, with Robert Galambos, is the author of early studies in echolocation, the means by which animals produce sounds of high frequency with great rapidity, thereby determining objects in the immediate environment by the echo they bounce back.

Dr. Griffin is a Professor of Zoology at Harvard.

(Continued on reverse)

Meet the Staff



VELMA HARRIS, whose paintings of fuchsias are on display in Lovell White Hall of Man and Nature, first came to the Academy and the Department of Exhibits as a volunteer worker under the direction of the then Curator, Frank Tose, in 1931. A native San Franciscan, she was a student at the California School of Fine Arts.

On her arrival at the Academy, Simson African Hall was in the process of completion and it was during this period that Miss Harris learned the intricate art and craftsmanship demanded in creating the many details necessary in these dioramas which have an international reputation for excellence.

After 1935, she continued her art training in various media, placing the accent on portrait modeling. Her talent for creating three-dimensional models subsequently held her in good stead at the Academy to which she returned as a regular member of the staff in 1940.

Since then, the results of her craft have been in evidence throughout the Academy. She is the creator of the lifelike snakes and lizards on display in the Reptile Room in North American Hall; she made many of the delicate models of fungi in the Alice Eastwood Hall of Botany as well as the beautiful re-creation of Equisetum telmateia (giant horsetail). Possibly the largest job assigned her and the one which took the most time was that of modeling the fruit and leaves of the two types of fig tree seen in the Dean Witter display of African Birds.

Her fuchsia paintings, executed in tempera and transparent water color, take hours upon hours to create. Not only does she work from the real flowers, but the tiny insects (almost her hallmark) which can be found spotted in the paintings are more often than not drawn from live specimens.

Miss Harris' talent plus her patience plus almost super-sight (she uses no magnifiers in her work) have contributed measurably to the success of many exhibits at the Academy.

Currently, she divides her time between the Exhibits Department, the Mailliard Library, and preparing legends for the reopening of Steinhart Aquarium.

(NEWS and NOTES continued)

The monthly meeting of the Biosystematists, an organization of persons in the Bay Area interested in the modern approach to the problems of classification of animals and plants, including genetics, ecology and other relevant factors, was held at the Academy March 12. Academy Director, Dr. Robert C. Miller presented an address on the topic "Taxonomic Aspects of Animal Behavior".

W.I. Follett, Curator of the Department of Ichthyology, was in charge of the arrangements for the meeting.

Visitors to the Department of Botany during the past weeks have been Dr. Robert T. Clausen, Professor of Botany at Cornell University, New York, and Dr. William Meijer of the Forestry Department, Sandakan, North Borneo.

Dr. Clausen, on sabbatical, is studying the genus Sedum (Belonging to the Stonecrop Family) in several western states. Dr. Meijer is a specialist in tropical trees.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

Regular Membership

Mr. Agustin Ayala-Castañares	Miss Phyllis Lindley
Mr. Max Crittenden, Jr.	Mr. George Meyer
Mr. Donald L. Davisson	Miss Charlene McNatt
Mr. James T. Eason	Mrs. Charles E. Reith-Selth
Mrs. Murray Echols	Mrs. Lou Ella R. Saul
Mr. Thomas W. Foote	Mr. Gerald Segale
Mr. Charles Hansen	Mrs. Edward R. Spaulding
Mr. Harold J. Higbee	Dr. Fred M. Tetzlaff
Mr. Henry F. Lippitt, II	Mr. Roger Wilbur

Family Membership

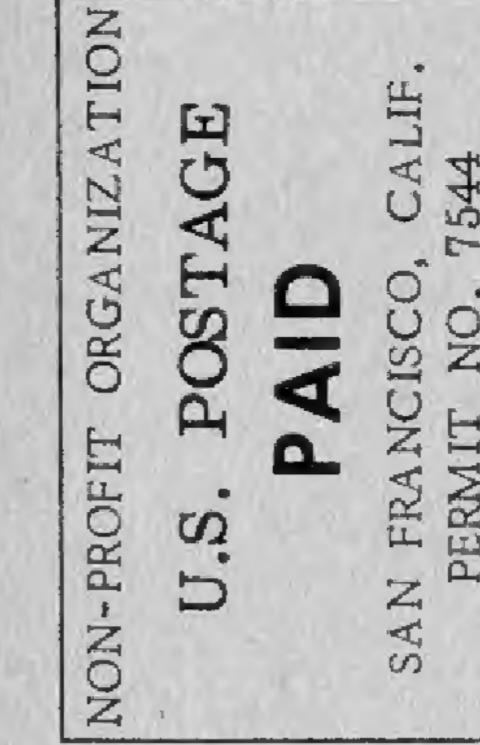
Mr. Robert K. Boone	Mr. Clinton Lee
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bronson	Mr. & Mrs. E.M. McCabe
Mr. David W. Jenson	Mr. Richard Pogue
Mr. E. Kaikinger	Mr. Frank G. Sennello
Mr. Joe Kugelmas	Mr. Charles J. Stewart
Mr. Robert C. Laben	Mr. John F. Wight

Student Membership

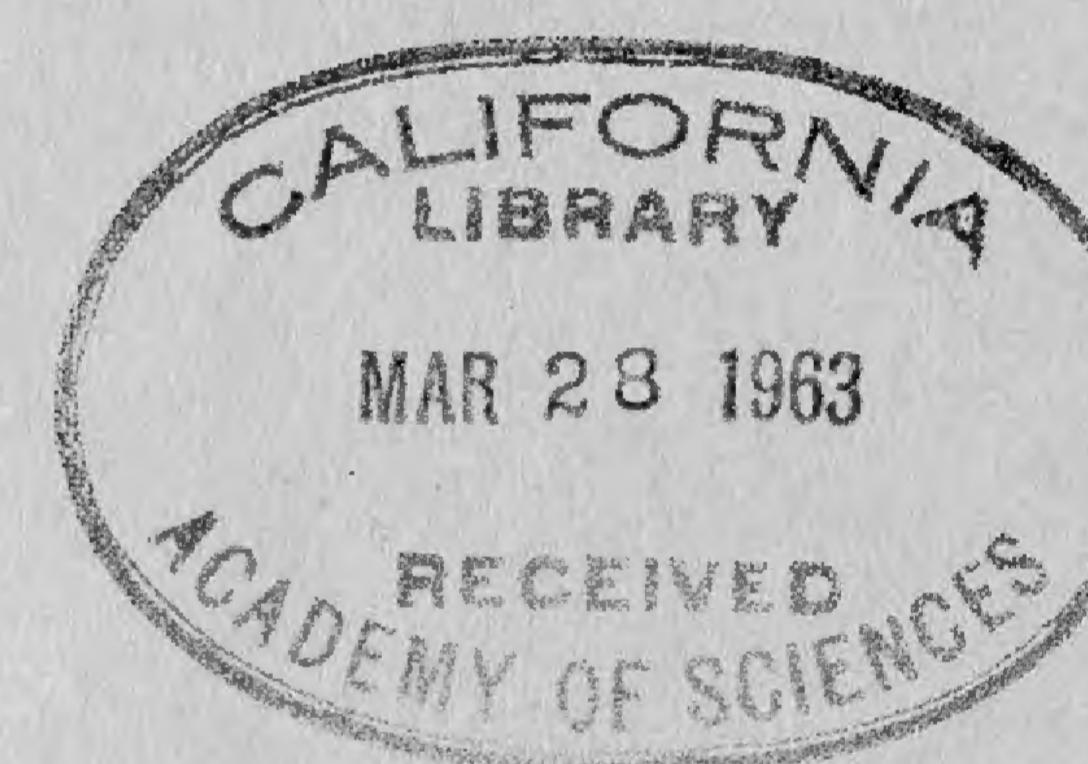
James Brown	Mike Parmer
Stanley Dombroski	Roland Shanks
Ralph Goodwin	Eric Weir
Don Hislop	Fred Wright

THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
GOLDEN GATE PARK
SAN FRANCISCO 18

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NEWSLETTER

